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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Wednesday - 6 October 1971

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1. [] George Murphy, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy staff, called referring to the 25 September New York Times story

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2. [] Called Dave Abshire, Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, Department of State, to offer some revisions to the draft letter from Abshire to Fulbright commenting on the Cooper bill (requiring the Agency to provide intelligence material to the Congress). Abshire didn't have this draft and I later called Bill McAfee, INR, and passed on our proposals to him which he accepted.

I told Abshire we were curious as to why he, and not the Secretary, was signing the letter to Fulbright on what appeared to be a major issue of this sort. Abshire said the chief reason was that letters from an Assistant Secretary attracted less publicity than letters from the Secretary adding that also, if necessary, the Secretary could repudiate them with minimum embarrassment.

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3. [] In response to his request, I provided Bill McAfee, INR, with rough figures on the number of Agency appearances before congressional committees which he said they might need in response to questions from the Foreign Relations Committee arising out of the above mentioned letter to the Chairman opposing the Cooper bill.

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Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Wednesday - 6 October 1971

Page 2.

25X1 4. [] Harry Symmes, Deputy Assistant Secretary^{25X1}
for Congressional Relations, Department of State, called to say they were
much concerned over a question on the LIG agenda for 8 October []
25X1 [] and that Under Secretary Johnson would
represent State at the meeting and would hope for Agency support on this
issue. I said I wasn't clear on the matter at issue, and Symmes said
he was sending me their proposed position which, in effect, sought to head
off a confrontation with the Foreign Relations Committee, but which he
feared might be unacceptable to the NSC representatives who he expected
to recommend "stonewalling." I said I'd have to see his paper before I
could comment on the matter.

25X1 5. [] Received a call from Michael VanDusen,
Near East Subcommittee staff, House Foreign Affairs Committee, who
requested that the date for Agency briefing be set over until 14 October
due to the holiday next week. I told Mr. VanDusen I could see no
reason why we wouldn't be able to change but I would relay the request and
25X1A be back in touch with him in the morning. [] OCI, has been
advised.

25X1 6. [] Employee Benefits Subcommittee, House
Post Office and Civil Service Committee, reported the draft Committee
bill on invasion of privacy of Federal employees to the full Committee with
the exemption for the intelligence community intact. It is anticipated that
there will be further discussion of the exemption before the full Committee to
require at least reporting to the Congress of similar type cases handled
within the intelligence community framework.

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Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Wednesday - 6 October 1971

Page 4

25X1 11. [] Met with Bill Woodruff, Counsel, Senate Appropriations Committee, and talked with him at some length about the Symington amendment to the Military Procurement Act imposing a \$350 million ceiling on U.S. expenditures for Laos for fiscal year 1972. Woodruff was of the firm opinion it was not intended that this ceiling apply to those more or less fixed expenses, such as the cost of maintaining the embassy and our station in Laos, which would occur regardless of the existence of []
25X1C [] He also said he thought Senator Stennis had not focused sufficiently on that provision of the amendment which would require authorization for expenditures in Laos after fiscal year 1972. Woodruff feels this could create some real problems for the Agency if indeed we continue to carry on the [] there. He saw no problem with the provision requiring submission of reports. He said those would normally go to the Vice President and the Speaker of the House and could be handled on a classified basis. He added, however, that they would undoubtedly go to the Foreign Relations Committee as well as to the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees.

25X1 12. [] Scott Cohen, Executive Assistant to Senator Charles Percy (R., Ill.), called to recommend to us as a prospect for an [] who has been working for the []
STATSPEC [] Arrangements were made for [] to be interviewed by [] next Tuesday, 12 October, at 10 a.m.

25X1 13. [] In response to her request, sent a brochure on the Agency to Betty Burger, in the office of Representative Fred Schwengle (R., Iowa).

25X1A []
JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

cc:
ER O/DDCI
Mr. Evans []
Mr. Houston Mr. Goodwin
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EA/DDP OPPB

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6 Oct 71

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